

# YWCA Regional Draws Midwest Throng: Integration In Action

By FRANCES TAYLOR MATLOCK

**O**URS IS AN INTEGRATED PROGRAM" was the proud boast of delegates representing 126 associations in attendance at the four-day central regional conference of the Young Women's Christian Association in Chicago April 13 to 16.

Converging upon the city from 12 mid-western states, over 1,200 staff executives and volunteers, national, regional and local "Y" leaders, thronged the Stevens and Congress hotels for the sessions devoted to the general leadership development theme, "Faith for Creative Living."

## Integrated Program

The association's racially integrated program was spotlighted by the selection of Mrs. Robert W. Claytor, president of the Grand Rapids, Mich., association, as the conference general chairman. Mrs. Claytor has had wide experience and training as a YWCA executive. She also serves as vice chairman for the central region.

The Grand Ballroom of the Stevens was the colorful background for the opening session Friday when Mrs. Claytor, as presiding officer, sounded the conference keynote with an address on "Our YWCA Heritage."

A stimulating address on the general theme by Dr. Huston Smith of the philosophy department of Washington university in St. Louis, Mo., followed. Mrs. Geo. A. Schemm of Detroit, Mich., presided.

## Highlights International

Sunday evening's climactic World YWCA Membership Night highlighted the international scope of the association. Miss Lilace Reid Barnes of Lake Forest, Ill., as president of the World's YWCA took an active part in the proceedings.

Another World YWCA executive committee member in attendance was Mrs. Eugene Ross McCarthy of St. Louis, chairman of the Central region and a vice-president of the National Board, who presided.

Mrs. Lillian Jackson, executive director of the Belmont Branch, Youngstown, Ohio, served as discussion leader for one of the sessions. In a key position as chairman of the Central region section of the national nominating committee was Mrs. Oscar W. Evans of Dayton, Ohio.

## Ends at Worship Service

Mrs. J. Birdsall Calkins of Arlington, Va., member of the na-

tional board, conducted the closing worship service. Other national board members assisting were Mrs. Boyd I. Miller, chairman of program study, Indianapolis, and Mrs. C. Douglas Mercer, New York chairman of community division.

Representing the national staff were Miss Josephine Ainsworth, correlator of Central regional office; Miss Genevieve Lowry, Miss Myra A. Smith, Miss Julie Mae Hamilton, Miss Jessamine Fenner and Miss Mary Proal Lindeke. Other staff members assigned to the Central regional field staff were Miss Bertha Gregory, Miss Mayme Davis and Miss Hortense Spear. Representing the national student staff were Miss Frances Helen Mains and Miss Ruth Packard.

## Central Region Board

Central Region members of the National Board of Directors attending were Mrs. Ernest A. Johnson, Lake Forest, Ill.; Mrs. Edward S. Allen, Ames Iowa; Mrs. Wyeth Allen, Milwaukee; Mrs. Herman Beale, Chicago.

Others were Mrs. Ward L. Beebe, St. Paul; Mrs. Porter Brown, Salina, Kan.; Mrs. Robert Crossen, St. Louis.

Also Mrs. Robert C. Neff, Dayton; Mrs. Richard W. Northrup, of Duluth; Mrs. Alvah Peterson, Columbus; Mrs. Gerald Holmen, Minot, N. D.; Mrs. Homer P. Rainey, Columbia, Mo.; Mrs. Ford R. Weber, Toledo, and Mrs. O. N. Sheeley Grand Island, Neb.

## Planning Staff

Mrs. Claytor's conference planning staff included Miss Helen P. Bull, registration and finance; Mrs. Robert D. Mayo and Mrs. James F. Mummary, hospitality; Mrs. Robert J. Crossen, publicity and promotion; Miss Josephine Ainsworth, conference executive, and Miss Dorothy Andrews, conference manager.

Among the many out-of-towners were Mrs. Beth Bailey Price, Betty Acker, Lois Harbage, Mrs. Jas. Ellis and Miss Alta Jean Gannaway.

## Largest Delegation

Ohio had the largest representation with Youngstown's Mrs. Sallie Harvey, Miss Janie McCormick, chairman Belmont Branch and Mrs. Elizabeth Penman. From

Dayton came Mrs. James Douglas and Mrs. George T. Tanner, Mrs. W. A. Reeves of Columbus, Mrs. Rosa Spears Moody of Toledo and Mrs. Leslie Bowman of Elyria.

Gary, Ind., sent Mrs. Helen Anderson and South Bend was represented by the distinguished Mrs. G. W. D'Armand, a board member. From Michigan came Misses Alice Smith and Nancy Travis of Flint; Mrs. Theodore Ford, Miss Josephine Spurlock, Mrs. U. S. Bagley and Mrs. William Barber of Saginaw; Miss Bernadine Harvey and Beverly Armstrong of Benton Harbor.

Mrs. Frances Hayden represented the Paseo Branch of Kansas City. Mrs. Fred C. Helm, Miss Constance Dunn, Mrs. Alfred Terrell and Mrs. Idell Verner of Wichita; Mrs. Bernard Watson, Mrs. E. Dooley and Mrs. Harold Robbins came on from K. C., Kans.

Omaha, Nebraska's delegation included Mrs. Hattie Moore, Miss Vernita Hill and Atty. Elizabeth Davis Pittman.

# Christian Education Worker To Co-Direct Student YW's

With a background of six intensive years of work in the field of Christian Education, Miss Doris V. Wilson has come to Atlanta to co-direct the Southern Regional Office of the National YWCA's Student Division. At the regional headquarters is the Wesleyan Memorial Church building, Miss Wilson will share the administration of the on-campus YWCA organization in some ten states with Miss Rosalee Oaks.

A graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Miss Wilson holds a master's degree in Christian Education from Union Seminary of Columbia University. Since her college training, she has worked almost constantly with young people's religious groups.

For several years, she was a program director and field worker for the Girls Friendly Society—an organization of the Episcopal Church. She worked in Youngstown, Ohio at the Community YWCA prior to coming to Atlanta to carry on the program formerly conducted by Miss Irene Harris who died in an accident last year.

As co-administrator of the regional office, Miss Wilson's work will take her to colleges all over the south to work with campus organizations. The work of the student division, she explained, is carried on jointly with its counterpart in the YWCA.

The bulk of the campus work deals with organization, programming, leadership training, interpreting the policies and aims of the national organization an arranging state and regional conferences.

Miss Wilson stated that she considers the southern region to be a particularly fruitful one in that there are so many colleges in the south and that southern college students have made such a significant contribution to the Christian Education program.

"It is an opportunity," she said, to make students aware of the ways to effective Christian living. "This isn't an isolated or disorganized movement," she added. "The work of the Student Division of the YW is closely connected with other national and international organizations—on an interdenominational level—to effect higher standards of Christianity all over the world."

She explained that the student division does not confine itself to the college campus. There are ac-



MISS DORIS V. WILSON

tual work-study projects which give the student an opportunity to sample several "real life" situations and evaluate them on the spot—rather than attempting to do so in theory only.

One such project, "Students in Industry," featured a group of students working in manufacturing plants in Chicago and New England during the summer. After working hours, the student would meet in seminars to discuss the problems encountered during their on-the-job investigation.

A similar group visited Washington, D. C. to work in various government agencies—the Department of Labor, the Library of Congress and the Navy Department. This study, titled the "Washington Students Citizenship Seminar," resulted in a keener insight into the possibilities in a Christian government.

Miss Wilson stated that some 12 students from the southern region joined students from all over the country in making a European Work-Study Seminar trip. While in the various countries they visited, the students, staying in youth hostels, camps and inexpensive hotels, lived under the same standards as their European contemporaries. The countries visited were England, France, Switzerland, Scotland, Germany, the Scandinavian countries, Austria and Italy.

Upon returning to their respective campuses, the student who parti-

cipated in one of the work-study administrative work, Miss Wilson projects, is able to communicate will probably also act, she says, as much first hand information to his groups in various parts of the south. This multifold activity promotes, in her words, "to make for a most interesting work experience."